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Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

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Confirmation No.: 9219

Application No.: 09/988,954 **MAR 29 2004**

Attorney Docket No.: 780-A02-006-11

Filed: November 21, 2003 **TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**

Group Art Unit: 3738

For: TISSUE STABILIZATION METHOD

Examiner: P. Prebilic

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

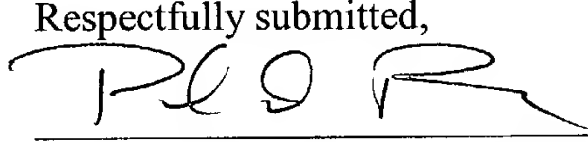
In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

A revised Form PTO/SB/08 listing all foreign patent applications and other non-U.S. patent publications submitted for consideration is enclosed. Copies of the listed references are being submitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2). Applicant notes that an information disclosure statement listing U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications was electronically submitted March 23, 2004, and no copies were enclosed pursuant to the USPTO's waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i).

Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are: (a) copies of foreign patent applications.

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) before the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Dated: MARCH 23, 2004 Respectfully submitted,


Paul D. Bianco (Reg. No. 43,500)

Attorney for Applicant

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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use as many sheets as necessary) RECEIVED MAR 29 2004 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700				Application Number		09/988,954			
				Filing Date		November 21, 2001			
Sheet 1 of 1		First Named Inventor		P. Bonutti		Group Art Unit		3738	
		Examiner Name		P. Prebilio		Attorney Docket Number		780-A02-006-11	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		T ⁶
	AA	DE	3707787	A1	Gruendler	09/22/1988			
	AB	EP	0192576	A1	Medicorp Research	08/27/1986			
	AC	FR	2344267	A1	Ulrich	10/14/1977			
	AD	WO	88/01517	A1	Materials Consultants	03/10/1988			
OTHER REFERENCES - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS									
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIP Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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